



Deputy Assistant Secretary General for Political Affairs and Security Policy and the Secretary General's Special Representative for the Caucasus and Central Asia

James Appathurai was appointed Deputy Assistant Secretary General in December 2010.

As DASG, he is responsible for NATO's political relations with countries across the globe, international organisations, enlargement, and arms control.

He provides policy advice on political issues affecting the security of the Alliance. He is responsible for implementing and developing NATO's relations with all its partner countries and organisations, including through Political Agreements, Partnership Cooperation Programmes, and other bilateral and multilateral arrangements. He chairs the meetings of Political Counsellors in NATO, and, in support of the Assistant Secretary General, directs the Political Affairs and Security Policy Division of NATO.

As the Secretary General's Special Representative, he is responsible for carrying forward the Alliance's policy in the two strategically important regions of the Caucasus and Central Asia.

He provides advice to the Secretary General on how best to achieve NATO's goals in the two regions, and how best to address the security concerns of NATO's partners. He is responsible for overall coordination of NATO's partnership policy in the two regions, and works closely with regional leaders to enhance their cooperation with the Alliance.

He liaises with representatives of the international community and other international organizations engaged in the two regions in order to ensure coordination of assistance programs. The Special Representative also promotes understanding about NATO and security issues more generally through engaging with the media and civil society in the two regions.

Mr. Appathurai previously served as NATO's Spokesperson from 2004 to 2010. Prior to that he served as Deputy Head and Senior Planning Officer in the Policy Planning and Speechwriting Section of NATO's Political Affairs Division from 1998 to 2004. He served in the Canadian Defence Department from 1994 to 1998.